

FISCAL NOTE

HB 141 - SB 1424

February 11, 2005

SUMMARY OF BILL: Provides that an eligible claimant for unemployment compensation cannot be denied benefits if the individual left work or was discharged due to circumstances relating to domestic violence. No employer's account shall be charged for the payment of benefits to an individual who left work due to such circumstances. Prohibits the Department of Labor and Workforce Development from disclosing any information without consent.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

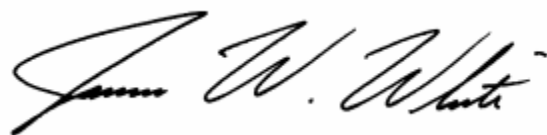
**Increase State Expenditures - \$295,000/Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund
Increase Local Govt. Expenditures – Not Significant**

Assumptions:

- Under current law, the claimant must be able and available for work and actively seeking work.
- Currently, nonprofit and governmental employers that elect to reimburse the Department dollar-for-dollar for their portion of benefits paid to former employees would be eligible for a noncharge. Administrative expense to change the computer programs to non-charge these employers.
- Annual increase in benefit payments from the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund in the amount of \$295,000.
- 100 claims annually for unemployment benefits by victims of domestic violence (based on the claims in North Carolina); average weekly benefit amount is \$209.27 with an average duration of 14.1 weeks for the 12 months ending September 30, 2004. A total increase of \$295,212 in benefit payments from the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund.
- Not significant increase in local government expenditures for payments to former employees.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James W. White, Executive Director